(b) whether it is a fact that statistics show a declining trend of this trade and the trade has become almost negligible; and

(c) whether Government have conducted any study about this decline and taken any steps to solve this issue after ascertaining to reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Moreh in Manipur is an approved Land Customs Station for border trading between India and Myanmar.

(b) Bilateral trade with Myanmar from Land Customs Station at Moreh has shown some decline last year.

(c) Border trade allows exchange of locally produced commodities by people living along both sides of the Indo-Myanmar border. The variation in border trade takes place *inter alia* due to the availability of the locally produced commodities and also depends on the needs of the people living along the border.

Rules for single brand retailing

†875. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the grant of permission for independent single brand retailing to foreigners by Government, any rules have been formulated to implement the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that any brand of item can be sold in the market on retail basis after the approval of Government; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has allowed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 51%, with prior

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government approval, only in the retail trade of 'Single Brand, products. The Guidelines notified, *vide* Press Note 3 (2006 Series), *inter alia*, provide that:

(i) Products to be sold should be of 'Single Brand' only;

(ii) Products should be sold under the same brand internationally; and

(iii) 'Single Brand' product-retailing would cover only products which are branded during manufacturing.

New SEZ Area

†876. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERACE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of areas proposed to be established by Government under Special Economic Zone law which has been implemented w.e.f. 10th February, 2006;

(b) the number of projects likely to be opened by Government in most backward ares like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Orrisa;

(c) whether Government has taken any measures to establish Special Economic Zone in these States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) There is no proposal for the Central Government to set up any new Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and the policy of the Government is to encourage and facilitate establishment of SEZs in the private sector or joint sector in association with the State Governments or by the State Governments themselves. Accordingly, apporoval has so far been given for setting up of 117 SEZs on the basis of proposals recived from private/joint sector and State Governments, of which 13 SEZs are in Uttar Pradesh and 2 in Orissa. No proposal for setting up of SEZs has so far been received from Bihar.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.